

Corollary Athletics

Corollary Sports Teams in Three Sports

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) offers all high school students the opportunity to participate in the MCPS interscholastic athletics program. In addition, MCPS is pleased to announce that it has formed a partnership with Special Olympics and will offer three sports as part of a corollary athletics program: Unified track and field (fall), Unified bocce (winter) and Allied softball (spring). Allied softball was offered as a pilot program at five MCPS high schools in spring, 2010, and will be available at all 25 MCPS high schools in spring, 2011.

Pilot Programs in Track and Field and Bocce in 2010-2011

The Unified track and field program will be offered as a pilot program at seven high schools in fall, 2010 (Walter Johnson, Richard Montgomery, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley, Watkins Mill, Wheaton, and Walt Whitman high schools). Unified bocce will be offered as a pilot program at seven high schools in winter, 2010-2011 (Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Blair, Einstein, Magruder, Northwood, Sherwood, and Wootton high schools). Unified track and field and Unified bocce will be available at all 25 high schools in 2011-2012.

Target Group, Benefits

The corollary athletics program is designed for students with and without disabilities who are interested in playing on a school athletics team but do not necessarily have the skills and/or desire to play at the varsity or junior varsity level. Approximately fifty-percent of the participants in the corollary athletics program will include students with disabilities. The corollary athletics program will offer students who have never been on a varsity or junior varsity team an opportunity to participate on a competitive athletics team.

Among other benefits associated with athletic participation, the program will provide students an opportunity to participate in social activities, improve self-esteem, meet new friends, and enjoy friendly competition. Athletes will wear uniforms, be eligible to earn varsity awards, be included in pep-rallies, appear in the school yearbook, and participate in awards ceremonies. Some students who volunteer to assist in the program may qualify for community service hours.

Questions, Practices, Eligibility

Practices for Unified bocce will begin Monday December 13, 2010; practices for Allied softball will begin in mid-March, 2011. Students will need a current physical examination and parent permission and medical card in order to participate. The physical examination form is available from the athletic director or online.

Eligibility rules and standards that apply to the interscholastic athletics program apply to corollary sports. These rules and standards include age limitations, academic eligibility standards, years of eligibility, residency standards, etc.

Once a student has participated in an interscholastic athletic program sport other than a corollary sport, the student is ineligible to participate in corollary sports. A student may request an appeal if special circumstances exist. Students who are not eligible to compete in a corollary sport may participate as peer helpers, peer coaches, managers, score keepers, or statisticians.

If a student is interested in being on a corollary sports team, then the student or the student's parent should indicated this to the athletic director, Suzette Thom or a special education teacher Grayson Heck.

Similarly, if there are any questions regarding any of the corollary sports, please call the athletic director, Suzette Thom @ 240-497-6344.

Suzette A. Thom

Athletic Director

SSL Coordinator

Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS

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